REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.)   Amendments

Claims 10, 12, 16, 19, 21 and 25 have been amended. Claims 10-27 remain

pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully

requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.)   Examiner Objections

The Examiner objected to Claims 10 and 19 for certain "informalities." The

Applicant has amended Claims 10 and 19 to overcome the Examiner's objection.

3.)   Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner rejected Claims 10, 12-13, 15, 19, 21-22 and 24 as being

anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,898,915 issued to Reininghaus, *et al.*

Whereas Reininghaus fails to disclose each and every limitation of those claims, the

Applicant traverses the rejection.

Claim 10 recites:

> 10.   A method of monitoring the chargeable activities of a user in a mobile telecommunications network, the method comprising the steps of:
> monitoring at least a first condition (C1) and a second condition (C2) on which charging is based;
> normalizing said first condition against a first normalizing value (N1) and said second condition against a second normalizing value (N2), said step of normalizing comprising dividing the value of said condition by said normalizing value to yield normalized conditions;
> adding said first (C1/N1) and second (C2/N2) normalized conditions to yield a total consumed charging units value; and

> comparing said total consumed charging units value against a charging unit authorization limit. (emphasis added)

The Applicant's invention solves several problems, including i) charging based on two or more conditions, such as voice minutes and bytes of data transmission, and ii) different rates of charging between home and visited networks. The Applicant's invention accomplishes both objectives by monitoring at least a first condition (C1) and a second condition (C2) on which charging is based; the conditions can be associated with, for example, voice call minutes and bytes of data transmission. The first and second conditions are normalized by dividing the value of each condition by a normalizing value (see details at pages 6-7 of the specification). The normalized conditions are then added to yield a total consumed charging units value, which is then compared to a charging unit authorization limit. These elements are not disclosed by Reininghaus.

In particular, Reininghaus fails to disclose monitoring at least two conditions, normalizing those two conditions, adding the normalized values to obtain a total consumed charging units value, and comparing the total consumed charging units value against a charging unit authorization limit. Accordingly, Reininghaus fails to anticipate Claim 10. Whereas Claim 19 includes limitations analogous to those of Claim 10, Reininghaus also fails to anticipate Claim 19. Furthermore, whereas Claims 12-13 and 15, and Claims 21-22 and 24 are dependent from Claims 10 and 19, respectively, and include the limitations thereof, those claims are also not anticipated by Reininghaus. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claims 10, 12-13, 15, 19, 21-22 and 24.

4.)   Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected Claims 11, 14, 20 and 23 as being unpatentable over Reininghaus; Claims 16, 18, 26 and 27 as being unpatentable over Reininghaus in view of Hillis (US 5,303,297); and Claims 17 and 26 as being unpatentable over Reininghaus in view of Deakin (US 6,463,275). The Applicants traverse the rejections.

As established *supra*, Reininghaus fails to anticipate independent Claims 10 and 19. Hillis and Deakin fail to cure the deficiencies of Reininghaus. The teachings of Hillis and Deakin, either alone or in combination with Reininghaus, fail to disclose, much less suggest, monitoring at least two conditions, normalizing those two conditions, adding the normalized values to obtain a total consumed charging units value, and comparing the total consumed charging units value against a charging unit authorization limit. Therefore, Claims 11, 14, 20 and 23 are not obvious in view of those references. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claims 11, 14, 20 and 23.

5.) Non-rejected Claims

In the Detailed Action, the Examiner did not provide any objection to or rejection of Claim 25.[1] Accordingly, the Applicant requests that the Examiner indicate such claim as being allowable on any subsequent Office Action.

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[1] Although the Office Action Summary lists Claims 1-18 as pending, with Claims 1-18 as rejected and Claims 10 and 19 as objected to, Claims 10-27 are actually pending in the application. The Detailed Action only addresses the Examiner's objections and rejections with respect to Claims 1-24 and 26-27.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for Claims 10-27.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,
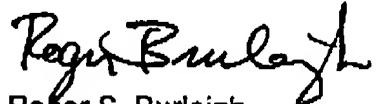
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